

U. S. Department of Justice

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FEDERAL BUREAU

*of*

INVESTIGATION

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Transfer-Call 3421

100  
7826-17

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

202 U. S. Court House  
El Paso, Texas  
July 23, 1947

Director, FBI

AIR MAIL

~~SOVIET~~  
Re: ~~RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES~~  
~~ESPIONAGE - R~~

Dear Sir:

The El Paso Office received a letter from Mr. VAN THOMPSON, Chief Engineer, Southern Union Gas Company, Burt Building, Dallas, Texas, advising that representatives of the Amtorg Trading Corporation had requested permission to visit the property of the Southern Union Gas Company, which is located thirty miles Northwest of Farmington, New Mexico. It is a natural gas purification plant to remove Hydrogen Sulphide and Carbon Dioxide from the natural gas before it is delivered to the pipeline for the use of the customers of the Southern Union Gas Company all over the Northwestern part of the State of New Mexico, including Albuquerque and Santa Fe.

Mr. THOMPSON advised that there is nothing secretive about the process used. He further stated that in view of the various war projects in the area, he would appreciate receiving advice in this matter before giving the Russian representatives permission to make this trip.

I have acknowledged Mr. THOMPSON's letter and informed him that I have requested SAC P. WYLY, of the Dallas Office, to confer with him concerning this matter. It is believed that the Bureau should not indicate to Mr. THOMPSON that the representatives should not make the trip, but in view of the importance of the area around Albuquerque and Santa Fe, New Mexico, it is my opinion that should the Russian representatives make such a trip that they should be placed under surveillance by this office.

This action will be taken unless the Bureau instructs to the contrary.

Very truly yours,

*R. C. Suran*  
R. C. SURAN, SAC

RCS:ACO

100-2643

cc: SAC, DALLAS



RECORDED

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*W. J. Suran*  
*W. J. Suran*

61-5381-2827  
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
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July 30, 1947

TO: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

RECORDED

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SAC, DALLAS

URGENT

Transmit the following message to:

AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION, ISR. RE EL PASO LETTER JULY TWENTY THREE, LAST,

ENTITLED QUOTE RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES ESPIONAGE DASH R UNQUOTE ADVISING THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION HAD REQUESTED PERMISSION TO VISIT THE PROPERTY OF THE SOUTHERN UNION GAS COMPANY NEAR FARMINGTON, NEW MEXICO. DALLAS WILL IMMEDIATELY ADVISE THE IDENTITIES OF THE REPRESENTATIVES. NO PHYSICAL SURVEILLANCE SHOULD BE MADE WITHOUT BUREAU AUTHORITY. HOWEVER, BUREAU SHOULD BE KEPT ADVISED OF ACTIVITIES OF THESE REPRESENTATIVES THROUGH ESTABLISHED SOURCES.

HOOVER

61-5381

CC: SAC, El Paso (by mail)  
CC: SAC, New York (by mail)

JJH:bb

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Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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Per